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WHARFEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1943.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report for the year ended 31st December, 1943.

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, the Report is very much abbreviated, both in regard to statistics and also many administrative matters connected with water and sewerage developments either carried out or projected.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Live Births.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	49	29	78
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Total	50	31	81

	Still Births.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	1	1	2

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	7	2	9
Illegitmate	-	-	-

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births 111.11

DEATHS.

Males.	Females.	Total.
32	27	59

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :-

No. 29 Puerperal & Post Abortional Sepsis	0
No. 30 Other Maternal causes	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	10
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1943.

CIVILIANS ONLY.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	13	12	0
Whooping Cough	33	0	1
Diphtheria	3	3	0
Erysipelas	2	0	0
Measles	122	1	0
Pneumonia	6	1	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Dysentery	0	0	0
Total	179	17	4

Disease.	AGE GROUPS.						
	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever	0	0	7	5	1	0	0
Whooping Cough	6	9	16	2	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Measles	8	29	75	8	2	0	0
Pneumonia	1	0	2	0	1	2	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	15	38	101	17	5	3	0

SCABIES.

40 cases of Scabies were notified, 12 of which were treated at home, 18 at the Newall First Aid Post and the remaining 10 were admitted to Institutions.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1 -	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 -	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 -	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 -	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 -	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
45 -	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 -	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAUSES OF DEATH.

No. 4	Whooping Cough	1
No. 6	Respiratory Tuberculosis	1
No.13 & 16	Cancer	10
No.17	Diabetes	1
No.18	Intra-cranial Vascular lesions	12
No.19	Heart diseases	10
No.20	Other diseases of circulatory system	1
No.22	Pneumonia	3
No.28	Nephritis	5
No.31	Premature birth	4
No.32	Congenital Malformations or disease	2
No.34	Road traffic accidents	2
No.35	Other violent causes	1
No.36	All other causes	6
		59

During the year there has been a wide-spread epidemic of measles, which has been mainly of a mild type with no mortality.

The Births and Deaths total approximately the same as last year.

The health and nutrition of the population both adult and child is, in general, of a satisfactory standard.

Though it is not possible to describe in detail the many and varied sanitary conditions which have required action by the Sanitary Inspector or myself, the inspection of the district has been fully maintained, and the Sanitary Inspector is in the process of planning for post-war years.

I desire to proffer my very grateful thanks for the invaluable help I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Council, the Clerk, the Sanitary Inspector, the Assistant Clerk and other Members of the Staff.

I am,
Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

H. WOLFE M.D.,B.S.,D.P.H.,

August 1944.

WHARFEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Rural Council Offices,
Boroughgate,
Otley.
August 1944.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I beg to submit my Report on the work in the Public Health Department during the year ended 31st December, 1943.

This is the Eighteenth Annual Report I have had the pleasure of presenting and the fifth - and we all very much hope the last - of the War period.

The Ministry have again requested that, for security reasons, certain particulars and statistics be omitted and on this account the Report is much abbreviated.

Quite a lot of useful work has been done during the year and as materials and labour are now somewhat easier to obtain, I hope that, very soon, we shall be able to carry out even more repairs and improvements, some of which are urgently necessary.

Post War Housing is receiving a good deal of consideration - all kinds of new labour saving devices and improvements are being planned - and I believe that as soon as hostilities cease, this Rural Area will be a scene of great building activity.

As will be seen by reference to my last Report, the year commenced with 4 outstanding nuisances and these, together with a further 119, have been remedied during 1943. At the close of the year there were only 4 nuisances requiring attention.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

All premises have been inspected periodically, and conditions, structurally, are satisfactory, but at Carlton nuisances have been caused by the pollution of a stream, first by oil deposits and later by acids.

As the stream is used by cattle - some of which suffered ill effects from drinking the water - the matter received immediate attention and in order to remove the nuisance caused by oil deposits, intercepting traps were provided on the drain which discharges into the stream, and this abated the nuisance.

In the case of the pollution by acids - which had even more dangerous results - a special plant has been installed at the Factory to treat the acids before they are discharged into the Sewer.

I have not received any unsatisfactory reports from H.M. Inspector of Factories nor have there been any nuisances caused by the emission of black smoke.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The number of licensed slaughterhouses is the same as last year, viz:-

Bramhope	1
Pool	1
Langbar	2
Norwood	1

Since the commencement of the War slaughtering has been carried out at the Government controlled premises in Otley and only the slaughter of pigs for home consumption or the urgent slaughter of animals due to accidents, has been carried out in my district.

Although the slaughterhouses have not been in constant use, I have made periodical inspections and have always found them to be clean and satisfactory.

The following table shews the number of animals slaughtered and inspected:-

	Slaughtered.	Inspected.
Pigs	231	197
Sheep	-	-
Beasts	1	1

Only in one instance was the meat found to be unsatisfactory and this was owing to advanced Tuberculosis in a pig; the whole of the carcase was destroyed.

The premises at Bramhope registered for the production of cooked foods are regularly inspected and conditions have always been clean and satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

During the year food has been inspected and dealt with as follows:-

Type of Food.	Quantity.	Action taken.
Bacon	34 lbs.	Bone tainted and used for feeding livestock.
Bacon	53 lbs.	Rancid and destroyed.
Eggs	3	Bad and destroyed.
Dried Fruit	7½ lbs.	Mouldy and destroyed.
Condensed Milk	15 tins.	Blown and destroyed.
Rice	5,236 lbs.	Full of insects and used for feeding livestock.
Rolled Wheat	7,944 lbs.	ditto.
Brawn	72½ lbs.	Tainted and used for feeding livestock.
Shoulder of Lamb	3½ lbs.	ditto.
Bread	12 lbs.	Mouldy and used for feeding livestock.
Tongue	12 ozs.	Bad and destroyed.
Chopped Ham	6 lbs.	ditto.
Pilchards	11 tins.	ditto.

WATER SUPPLIES.

13 samples of water have been taken for bacteriological examination and the results thereon are as follows:-

	Number.	Result.
Ling Park Farm, Middleton (Well No.1)	1	Satisfactory
ditto (Well No.2)	1	Not satisfactory.
ditto (Well No.2)	1	Satisfactory.
Wilkinson's Reservoir, Clifton	1	"
Whitaker's Reservoir, Pool Bank	1	"
Yarnett House Farm, Denton	1	Not satisfactory.
Nunnery Farm, Arthington	1	"
Carr Farm, Askwith	1	"
Holligreen Cottage, Askwith	1	Satisfactory.
Plum Tree Farm, Fewston	1	"
Hewness Farm, Fewston	1	"
Heather Lea Farm, Fewston	1	"
Sykes Farm, Fewston	1	Not satisfactory.

It will be observed that the first sample from Well No. 2 at Ling Park Farm, Middleton, was not satisfactory and this was found to be due to the close proximity of a silo. This was removed and the second sample shewed the water to be quite satisfactory.

Negociations are proceeding for the laying of new mains to Carr Farm, Askwith and Yarnett House Farm, Denton, as the existing supply to both these premises shews evidence of pollution.

At Nunnery Farm, Arthington, a new supply has been provided and this necessitated the laying of 650 yards of 1½" pipes.

It is proposed to provide the Fewston and Blubberhouses areas with a new water scheme, but this is only in its preliminary stages and the samples were taken in order to ascertain which of the existing services were satisfactory.

Apart from the service pipe to Nunnery Farm, no new water mains have been laid during the year.

Apart from one or two minor defects and temporary shortages, all the water undertakings have continued to function satisfactorily.

SEWERAGE ETC.

The Sewageworks serving Pool and parts of Arthington and Bramhope continue to function satisfactorily but, as stated in my last Report, the beds are taxed to full capacity and I feel that, in order to successfully deal with the present volume of sewage and storm water, and the additional sewage which will be discharged there as soon as building development is resumed, the time has arrived when it is urgently necessary that additional beds be provided.

Since the end of the year under review negociations for the purchase of an additional 5 acres of land have been opened, and in my next Report I hope to be able to state that the extensions have been commenced if not completed.

Towards the end of 1943 difficulty was experienced at these Works in getting the sludge from the tanks due to a defect in the Pump; arrangements were made with the Makers for the necessary repairs and the sludge was soon again being regularly removed.

The Sewageworks at the Camp Plantation, Bramhope, is also working to full capacity, but it is not considered advisable to expend money on enlargement because, after the War, housing development will probably necessitate the extension of the Sewers which can then be linked up with the Councils main which discharges into the Leeds Corporation System at the City boundary, and thereby allow the abolition of these small Works.

The Sewer at Pool Bank has not yet been relaid, although it has required constant attention due to frequent obstructions.

The delay in relaying these pipes is due to general shortage of labour, but I hope the matter will soon receive attention.

The Sewageworks at Askwith continue to give every satisfaction and are capable of dealing with a far greater volume of sewage than is at present being discharged there.

No sewers have been laid by the Council during the year, but the Sewer through the field at the rear of the White Hart Hotel (which serves Old Post Office Row) has been diverted for approximately 100 yards. In some places the old sewer was only 6" below the surface of the ground and, due to the ploughing of the field, several pipes had been damaged. The owners of the field were approached and in addition to their consenting to the altered course, they paid for all materials, the Council providing the necessary labour.

A long length of sewer has been laid privately through Farnley Park and in order to discharge into the Sewageworks of the Otley Council, has been bridged over the River Wharfe.

MILK & DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

During 1943 my inspections of farms greatly increased, the number of visits being 421 as compared with 256 during 1942. Generally, conditions were satisfactory, although in some instances there was slackness as regards limewashing and the periodical cleansing of mistals, but as farmers are at present very hard pressed I have dealt fairly leniently with them and have usually been able to get the necessary work done without the service of notice.

There has again been an increase in the number of milk producing farms, more premises previously used solely for cattle rearing having been converted into dairy farms.

The number of "Accredited" milk licences issued is 57 - an increase of one - and the number of "Tuberculin Tested" licences is 5 - an increase of three.

98 samples of milk have been taken, 82 of which were satisfactory and 16 not satisfactory.

Repairs and alterations have been carried out at the following premises:-

1. Folly Hall Farm, Norwood.
2. Castle Farm, Dob Park, Weston.
3. Bride Cross Farm, Weston.
4. Moor House Farm, Bramhope.
5. Caley Farm, Pool.
6. Rushfield Farm, Fewston.
7. Layfield Farm, Langbar.
8. Hopper Lane Hotel Farm, Fewston.
9. Black Foss Farm, Langbar.
10. Camp Farm, Bramhope.
11. Manor Farm, Askwith.

NUISANCES ABATED.

Privies abolished	7
Privies converted to W.C. system	1
W.C's. provided in lieu of privy middens	1
Additional W.C's. provided to existing property ...	2
Elsan closets provided in lieu of privy middens ...	6
Sanitary conveniences repaired	6
Defective lavatory waste pipes repaired	1
Obstructions removed from sewers	11
Defective sewers repaired or relaid ... 100 yds.	1
Defective drains repaired or relaid	2
Obstructions removed from drains	3
Septic tanks repaired or cleaned	1
Septic tanks provided to treat sewage effluent ...	1
Sewage dykes cleaned	1
Nuisances caused by pollution of streams	12
Nuisances caused by discharge of sewage on to highway	1
Obstructions removed from dykes	1
Obstructions removed from land drains	1
New Inspection Chamber covers provided in lieu of broken or defective ones	1
Sewage works repaired or cleaned	4
Sewage pumps repaired	1
Additional sewage filtering chambers provided ...	1
Broken surface water drains repaired	2
Nuisances caused by surface water flooding ...	1
Nuisances caused by overflowing middensteads ...	1
Nuisances caused by accumulation of manure ...	1
Refuse Tip nuisances	1
Water dykes cleaned	1
Water Pumps repaired	3
Water Well covers raised to prevent pollution ...	1
Water valves repaired	3
Pollution of water springs with manure	1
Defective obstructed or burst water mains and services repaired	4
Houses provided with fresh supply of water as a result of previous supply being inadequate or polluted	2
Unsightly and dilapidated buildings removed ...	2
Chimney stacks repointed, repaired or reflashed ...	4
Ridge tiles repointed	3
House roofs repaired	4
Defective eaves troughs repaired or renewed ...	2
Rain water pipes repaired	2
House & Bedroom ceilings replastered or repaired ...	2
House & Bedroom floors repaired or relaid ...	2
External house walls repointed or repaired ...	3
Internal house walls replastered or repaired ...	3
External house walls treated against dampness ...	1
Defective window frames repaired or renewed ...	1
Defective cooking ranges and firegrates repaired or renewed	4
Washing boilers repaired or renewed	2
Defective paths relaid	1

INSPECTIONS.

Farms	421
Public Health	360
Housing	102
Drains	21
Sewers	66
Sewageworks	120
Schools	40
Slaughterhouses	21
Factories	22
Houses & other premises disinfected	18

AMBULANCE SERVICES.

As will be seen by the figures given below, the journeys made by the Ambulance presented to the Council in 1940 by Messrs. B.S. & W. Whiteley Ltd., increase each year.

1941.		1942		1943.	
No. of Journeys.	Mileage.	No. of Journeys.	Mileage.	No. of Journeys.	Mileage.
66	1,316	103	2,235	149	2,990

The work has so far been carried out voluntarily but I feel that, as the journeys have increased so considerably since the ambulance was first received, some remuneration should be paid for services rendered.

I should like here to express my gratitude and appreciation to the drivers who have so willingly and efficiently carried out this voluntary service.

NOTICES SERVED.

Milk and Dairies Order.

Informal Notices	5

Public Health Act, 1936.

Section 138	1
Section 259	1
Section 93	2
Section 53	1
Section 45	1
Informal Notices, letters etc.	41

Housing Act 1936.

Section 9	3
Informal Notices, letters etc.	11

Since the commencement of the War a great deal of time has been spent on the collection of salvage and during 1943 we, in Wharfedale, had every reason to be proud of our efforts; firstly because we had the best average per head of population in the whole of Yorkshire for books collected during the "Book Drive" held from the 21st August to the 4th September, and secondly because during the year our sales per 1,000 population were the highest of any rural district in Yorkshire. This is a very fine achievement and I hope that during 1944 we shall be able to maintain our high standard.

Happily our area has not suffered war damage and we hope, of course, that we shall remain free to the end of the War, but in the very unfortunate event of enemy attack, I feel confident that our volunteer services will acquit themselves well.

Shortage of labour and materials have prevented the carrying out of several improvements, not only during the past year, but during the whole War period, and it will be agreed that when hostilities cease these outstanding matters must receive attention.

Some preliminary work has been done in connection with water supplies, sewerage and Sewageworks extensions, and these schemes will be submitted for your consideration when circumstances permit.

The work of the Council during the early post war period will be heavier on account of the deferment of schemes of improvement and the requirements which will follow the resumption of building in the area.

It is a pleasure to be able to report that the health of the district is very good notwithstanding War conditions.

Much useful work has been done in the year under review and I wish to thank our Chairman (Mr. Guy) the Chairman of the Public Health Committee (Mr. Whiteley), Members of the Council, the Clerk, Assistant Clerk and the Medical Officer of Health, for their help which has at all times been freely given.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. ASHWORTH.

Cert.R.S.I.,M.S.I.A.,